

# disciple

THE  
CALL  
TO FOLLOW

THE PLACE OF FAITH  
WEEK OF FEB 2

## READING ASSIGNMENT

This week, we are reading pages 3-14 of Dallas Willard's *The Great Omission*. The PDF of this chapter is available on our website at [rockypeak.org/disciple](http://rockypeak.org/disciple). If you prefer a hard copy, you can pick one up at Starting Point on the patio of the Worship Center during weekend services. You can also access the reading by scanning the QR code here.



## GETTING STARTED

This weekend, we explored the critical role that trust in Jesus plays in the life of a disciple and how our faith grows as we continue to listen and follow His teaching in our lives. This week we will explore this more in our Life Group study.

## STUDY QUESTIONS

1. In our culture, the word “faith” is often defined as “blind trust” in something without any evidence to support it.
  - a. How have you defined faith in the past, either before coming to Christ or early in your relationship with Him?
  - b. How has your definition of faith grown over time? How would you define it now?
2. This weekend we learned how Jesus healed a boy who was demonized. Let's revisit that story to see what it teaches us about faith. Read **Mark 9:14-29**.
  - a. The first principle Michael shared this weekend is *Faith Releases ... The Power of God*. In what way did the faith of the father provide an opportunity to display God's power?

- b. The second principle was *A Little Faith ... Goes A Long Way*. When Jesus challenges the father's statement, "if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us," the father responds, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" What do you think the father was communicating about his faith in this moment?
- c. How did Jesus respond to the "little faith" of the boy's father?
- d. Have you ever had a time when trusting in God led to a new experience of His power in your life? Explain. What role do you think your faith contributed to that?
3. We also learned that *Faith Grows . . . When We Follow*. Have you experienced this in your life? Can you think of times your faith has grown, especially when Jesus called you to do something that was hard, didn't make sense, or required risk? What are some specific steps of faith God has called you to take that resulted in a stronger relationship with Him?
4. In this week's reading assignment, *The Great Omission*, on pages 7-9, Willard compares the *high* cost of discipleship with the *higher* cost of non-discipleship.
- a. What has *not following* Jesus cost you in the past? What did you "gain" by not following Him?
- b. As you have followed Jesus, what has the cost of discipleship looked like in your life? What have you given up for Him?
- c. What have you received as a follower of Jesus that has made that exchange worth it?
5. On page 14, Willard talks about the idea of being a "vampire Christian."
- a. In your own words, describe what He means by this. Have you ever been taught or held an understanding of Christianity that was similar to this idea? Explain.
- b. At the end of page 14, Dallas writes:
- How could one actually trust him for forgiveness of sins while not trusting him for much more than that? You can't trust **him** without believing that he was right about everything and that he alone has the key to every aspect of our lives here on earth. But if you believe that, you will naturally want to stay just as close to him as you can, in every aspect of your life.*
- i. What do you think about this quote? Do you agree? Disagree?
- ii. How does it challenge your faith to listen and follow Jesus and His teaching "in every aspect of your life"?
6. Where in your life right now do you find yourself struggling to trust in Jesus, His plans, or His timing?
7. Spend some time praying through the father's statement, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!" Talk with Jesus about any area of your life where you are struggling to trust Him. Share with Him why this is hard for you and ask Him to surrender this area of your life to His leadership. Remember, your faith will grow as you *listen and follow*.